

Section II. Remarks***Claims Status:***

Claims 2-3, 9-38 and 76-79 are pending.

Claim 1 is canceled herein without prejudice.

Claims 4-8 and 39-75 were previously canceled.

Claims 2, 3, 9-12, 14, 16, 18, 22 and 23 are amended herein.

Rewriting of Prospectively Allowable Claims

In the February 17, 2004 Office Action claims 2 and 20-28, were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim (1) and any intervening claims.

In response, claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form and consistent with the Examiner's indication of prospective allowability, the rewritten claim 2 and dependent and intervening claims 20-28 are now in form and condition for allowance.

Allowability of Claims

The Examiner's allowance of claims 29-38 and 76-79 in the February 17, 2004 Office Action is acknowledged.

Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 9 and 10-19 and Traversal Thereof

In the February 17, 2004 Office Action claims 1, 3, 9 and 10-19, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States publication number 2002/0173221 to Shijian Li et al., (hereinafter referred to as "Li").

The rejection is traversed and reconsideration of the patentability of the pending claims is requested in light of the following remarks.

The present claims 3, 9-12, 16, 18, 22 and 23 have been amended herein to depend directly from independent claim 2, (by amendment made herein). Further, by consequence of such amendment, the dependency of intervening claims 13, 15, 17, 19-21 and 24-28 changed from independent claim 1, (now canceled), to independent claim 2. As claim 2 was prospectively allowed if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of its base claim, and as applicant has rewritten claim 2 in independent form to include all of the limitations of claim 1, claim 2 and all dependent and intervening claims are therefore prospectively allowable.

On the basis of the amendment of claims 3, 9-12, 16, 18, 22 and 23 to depend directly from prospectively allowed claim 2, applicant respectfully requests that the §102(e) rejection of claims 3, 9 and 10-19 over Li be withdrawn.

Fee Payable for Rewriting of Claim 2 in Independent Form

In connection with the rewriting of claim 2 in independent form, no net addition of independent claims has been made beyond the number for which payment previously has been made. Accordingly, no added claims fee is due. If it nonetheless is determined that any additional fee or charge is payable in connection with the entry of this Amendment, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account Number 50-0860 of Advanced Technology Materials, Inc.

Section III. Conclusion

Based on the amendments made herein and the foregoing remarks, claims 2-3, 9-38 and 76-79 are now in form and condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and allow all such claims, as herein amended.

In the event that any issues remain outstanding, incident to the formal allowance of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned agent at (203) 739-1435 to discuss their resolution, so that this application may be passed to issue at an early date.

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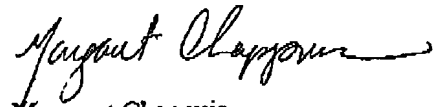
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Respectfully submitted,



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